

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1                   1-24. (Canceled)

1                   25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 **[[24]]**, wherein the first and  
2 second controller devices are located in geographically remote locations relative to each other.

1                   26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 **[[24]]**, wherein the first and  
2 second controller devices communicate over a second data communication network different  
3 from the first data communication network.

1                   27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 **[[24]]**, wherein the server  
2 communicates with the first controller device over the first data communication network.

1                   28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 **[[24]]**, wherein the second  
2 controller communicates with the first client device over the first data communication network.

1                   29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 **[[24]]**, wherein the second  
2 controller device communicates with the storage system over a storage area network.

1                   30. (Original) A method of delivering streaming data content to a client  
2 device from two or more controller devices over a data communication network in response to a  
3 request for the data content from the client device, wherein the data content includes two or more  
4 blocks of data stored on a storage system, the method comprising:

5 receiving, by a server, a request from a first client device over the data  
6 communication network, the request identifying streaming data content stored on a storage  
7 system;

8 transmitting a data request message from the server to a first controller device  
9 associated with the storage system, the data request message identifying the first client device  
10 and the data content requested by the first client device;

11 retrieving a first block of the data content from the storage system by the first  
12 controller device;

13 sending a second data request message from the first controller device to a second  
14 controller device associated with the storage system, the second data request message identifying  
15 the first client device and a second block of the data content;

16 retrieving the second block of the data content from the storage system by the  
17 second controller device;

18 transferring the first block of data directly to the first client device from the first  
19 controller device;

20 sending a synchronization message from the first controller device to the second  
21 controller device; and

22 in response to the synchronization message, transferring the second block of data  
23 directly to the first client device from the second controller device.

1 31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the steps of retrieving the  
2 data blocks, each include reading the data block from the storage system and applying one of an  
3 encryption and a decompression algorithm to the read data block.

1 32. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the first and second  
2 controller devices are communicably coupled over a bus.

1 33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the first and second  
2 controller devices are communicably coupled over a storage area network.

1                   34.     (Original)     The method of claim 30, wherein the first and second  
2 controller devices are communicably coupled to the storage system over a storage area network.

1                   35.     (Original)     The method of claim 30, wherein the first and second  
2 controller devices transfer the first and second data blocks over the data communication network  
3 at a faster rate than the rate at which the first and second data blocks are retrieved from the  
4 storage system.

1                   36.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the first  
2 controller device communicates with the storage system over a storage area network.

1                   37.     (canceled)

1                   38.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 30 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the first  
2 controller device is located in a network switch device coupled to the data communication  
3 network.

1                   39.     (currently amended) A method of delivering streaming data content to a  
2 client device over a data communication network in response to a request for the data content  
3 from the client device, the method comprising:

4                   receiving, by a first controller device, a request sent by a first client device to a  
5 server over the data communication network, the request identifying streaming data content  
6 stored on a storage system, wherein the first controller device and the server are coupled by the  
7 data communication network;

8                   processing the request by the first controller device; and

9                   controlling, by the first controller device, the delivery of the requested streaming  
10 data directly to the first client device over the data communication network by both ~~one~~ of the  
11 first controller device and a second controller device.

1                   40.     (currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein the first controller  
2 device is coupled to the storage system over a storage area network (SAN), wherein controlling  
3 includes:

4                   retrieving, by the first controller device, a first portion of the streaming data  
5 content from the storage system over the SAN; and

6                   transferring the retrieved first portion of the data content directly to the first client  
7 device over the data communication network from the first controller device.

1                   41.     (Original)     The method of claim 39, further including sending the  
2 request to the server.

1                   42.     (Original)     The method of claim 41, further including notifying the  
2 server that the request is being processed by the first controller device.

1                   43.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein controlling  
2 includes:

3                   transmitting a data request message from the first controller device to the second  
4 controller device, wherein the data request message identifies the first client device and the data  
5 content requested by the first client device, and wherein the second controller device is coupled  
6 to the storage system over a storage area network (SAN);

7                   retrieving, by the second controller device, a second portion of the streaming data  
8 content from the storage system over the SAN; and

9                   transferring the second portion of the retrieved data content directly to the first  
10 client device over the data communication network from the second controller device.

1                   44.     (Original)     The method of claim 43, wherein the first and second  
2 controller devices are coupled by a communication bus.

1                   45.     (Original)     The method of claim 44, wherein the communication bus is  
2 a PCI bus.

1                   46.    (Original)    The method of claim 43, wherein the first controller device  
2    is located in a first network switch device coupled to the data communication network and  
3    wherein the second controller device is located in a second network switch device coupled to the  
4    data communication network.

1                   47.    (Original)    The method of claim 46, wherein the first and second  
2    controller devices communicate over one of the data communication network and a back end  
3    network.